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CALL FOR LETTERS OF INTENT

1. **Letters of Intent applications are due by Tuesday October 31, 2023, by electronic submission to email info@msifoundation.ca**

2. The value of the award is a maximum of \$50,000.00 per year for no more than two years. The Foundation is committing \$300,000.00 to \$350,000.00 to this initiative. Only proposals meeting the following criteria will be considered:
 - Principal investigator is a novice or emerging Alberta investigator with no more than five years research experience. Principal investigators who do not hold a regular university appointment should normally have a co-applicant with such an appointment. Post-doctoral fellows and graduate students are not eligible. Preference will be given to principal investigators who do not already hold external salary awards for research or major research grants.
 - Studies must focus on health services or population health research in Alberta. The description of these two research areas outlined by the Canadian Institutes for Health Research (CIHR) will be used. Please see the links from CIHR <http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/13787.html> and <http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/13948.html>. Studies that involve health investigators and populations beyond the cities of Edmonton and Calgary, including rural Alberta, are encouraged.
 - In order to enhance the practical application of the research, the principal investigator must involve a user of research as a co-applicant (e.g. health service or population health manager or decision maker, practitioner group). Researchers are encouraged to include people with lived experience on the research team.

3. Research proposals with the potential to leverage funds from other sources will be viewed favourably. However, researchers should clearly demonstrate the unique aspects of their project if they are leveraging funds from larger studies, and preference will be given to applicants where the MSI funding will have the largest impact.

4. Applicants will be notified as to the decision concerning their Letter of Intent by December 2023. At that time, successful candidates will be provided with formal grant application forms.

5. Full proposals are due in the Foundation office by Thursday February 29, 2024.

6. Notification of awards will be made in June, with the effective date for the initiation of the award being September 1, 2024. The award may run for a maximum two-year period. **The decision of the Board of Trustees is final.**
7. A final report will be due within six months of the termination of funding. It is expected that all publications and presentations will acknowledge support by the Foundation.

The M.S.I. Foundation was established 50 years ago on receiving the assets of the “Medical Services (Alberta) Incorporated”, which was disbanded when the Federal and Provincial “Medicare” programs were introduced. Since that time the Foundation has contributed to approximately 300 research projects with a total value of more than \$9,000,000.00. For background information on the M.S.I. Foundation and the composition of the Board of Trustees, please go to the following website: www.msifoundation.ca